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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thiow Keng TAN et al.

Reissue Appl. No.: 09/736,441

Assignee : Matsushita Electric Industrial Co.

Group Art Unit: 2613

Patent No.: 6,075,576

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Issue Date: June 13, 2000

Title : METHOD FOR DISPLAY TIME STAMPING AND
SYNCHRONIZATION OF MULTIPLE VIDEO OBJECT PLANES

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the present application on March 15, 2001, Applicants call the following documents, which were cited in a European Search Report, issued on December 20, 2000, for counterpart European Patent Application No. 00 12 2579, to the attention of the Examiner assigned to the above-referenced application:

An article by O. AVARO et al., entitled "The MPEG-4 systems and description languages: A way ahead in audio visual information representation", at pages 385-431 of SIGNAL PROCESSING. IMAGE COMMUNICATION, vol. 9, no. 4, May 1997, was cited by the Foreign Examiner as being a category "A" document, pertaining to a document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance, as well as a category "P" document, pertaining to a document published prior to the international filing date but later

than the priority date claimed, with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The foreign Examiner indicated that page 423, paragraph 6.2.1 and page 424, paragraph 6.2.2 are relevant;

An article by A. KNOLL, entitled "MSDL: MPEG-4-SYSTEMS AND DESCRIPTION LANGUAGES", at pages 459, 460, 462, 464 and 465 of FERNSEH UND KINOTECHNIK, vol. 50, No. 8/09, August 1996, which was cited by the Examiner as being a category "P" and "A" document, with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that paragraph 9 is relevant;

European Patent EP 0 648 056 to Thomson Consumer Electronics, published on April 12, 1995, was cited by the foreign Examiner as being a category "A" document with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that the Abstract and Fig. 1 are relevant. Applicants note that U.S. Patents 5,430,485 and 5,467,139 are counterpart documents; and

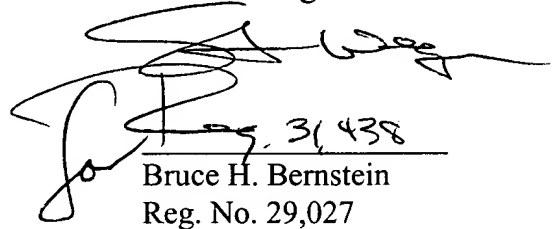
European Patent EP 0 634 870 A2 to Pioneer Electronic Corp., published on January 18, 1995, was cited by the foreign Examiner as being a category "A" document with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that the Abstract; column 10, lines 44-48; column 11, lines 31-38; and Fig. 9 are relevant. Applicants note that U.S. Patent 5,537,409 is a counterpart document.

Applicants also call to the Examiner's attention a European Search Report, issued on December 20, 2000, for counterpart European Patent Application No. 00 12 2580. Applicants note that the same above-mentioned documents were cited in this Search Report under the same categories for the same relevant portions.

The above-noted documents were previously cited and copies of the documents were provided to the Examiner in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 15, 2000. Therefore, copies of the documents are not attached hereto. However, copies of the two Search Reports are attached to complete the record.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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